



wherein n is 0 or 1;

R₁, R₂, R₃, and R₄ are independently hydrogen, a group compatible with the reaction carried out, or a targeting element; and

only one of R₁, R₂, R₃, and R₄ is a targeting element.

38. The process according to claim 37, wherein between about 1% and about 20% of the functionalized hemiacetal is grafted onto the polyalkyleneimine.

REMARKS

Claims 23-42 are pending in this application. Claims 39-42 stand withdrawn from further consideration under 37 C.F.R. § 1.142(b). Claims 34-38 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Claims 23-33 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Claims 34 and 38 have been amended to correct typographical errors. The amendments to claims 34 and 38 are supported, for example, by the text and structural formula on page 7, lines 6-13, of the as-filed specification. No new matter has been added.

Formal Matters

The Examiner has not considered foreign documents DE 19726186 A and EP0905254 A2 submitted with the Information Disclosure Statement filed on June 4,